

Communications addressed to him at Oxford, will reach him in good time.

I readily agree to offer him the Chapel work, in either of the capacities you propose; and you may as well write him at once.

At the same time have the calculations made, and advertise in the newspapers for sealed proposals for one or both of the other buildings, to be opened, say, 1st. Monday in April.

The puerile article in the Fay'ville Observer on the election of Prof. Martin,⁴ is a specimen of that croaking admission of inferiority to which, I fear, we are forever destined in N.C.

From David L. Swain

UNC

Chapel Hill,

January 27th., 1838 [1858].

Capt. Berry was here yesterday, and from him I learned that you are, at present, in Raleigh. If the College were fully organized, I would be strongly tempted to visit Raleigh on Saturday, in order

He represented Orange County in the state senate (1848, 1850, 1852, 1864, 1866) and in the Secession Convention of 1861. A Democrat in politics, Berry joined Graham in opposing secession. Hugh Lefler and Paul Wager (eds), *Orange County, 1752-1952* (Chapel Hill: Orange Printshop, 1953), 324, hereinafter cited as Lefler and Wager, *Orange County*; John Gilchrist McCormick, *Personnel of the Convention of 1861* (Chapel Hill: University Press [No. 1 of the James Sprunt Historical Monographs], 1900), 19, hereinafter cited as McCormick, *Convention Personnel*.

⁴ The *Fayetteville Observer* apparently expressed a popular view that North Carolinians should staff the state university. Its criticism of William Joseph Martin (1830-1896) was poorly placed since he became a useful and respected citizen. Martin, a Virginian of Irish parentage, was a graduate of the University of Virginia. In 1858, when he was elected to the University of North Carolina's chair of chemistry, Martin held the chair of natural sciences at Washington (now Washington and Jefferson) College. Although he was devoutly religious, he became an energetic warrior and was a revered Confederate officer. Six times wounded in battle, Martin served with Lee, after Gettysburg, as colonel of the Eleventh North Carolina Regiment. He founded Columbia High School in Columbia, Tennessee, before accepting the chair of chemistry at Davidson College in 1870. Martin served Davidson as professor, acting president, and vice-president prior to his death in 1896. His reputation as a challenging teacher and Christian scholar was widely known. Henry Lewis Smith, "William Joseph Martin," in the Charles L. Van Noppen Papers, Manuscript Department, Duke University Library, Durham, hereinafter cited as Van Noppen Papers.